

# The JEWISH VOICE

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## BARAK FOLLOWS IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF RABIN

By NAOMI SEGAL  
JTA

Ehud Barak swept to a lightning victory in Israel's elections this week, as befits a man whose Hebrew name means just that.

Barak's stunning victory over Likud's Benjamin Netanyahu is just the final step in the former army chief of staff's near-meteoric rise from career military man to the top of Israel's political ladder.

It is also another way in which Barak's trajectory has followed that of his mentor, the slain Yitzhak Rabin.

Like Rabin, Barak, 57, came to politics following an illustrious military career. And like his mentor, he appears to have similarly meshed an image of soldier-peacemaker.

Barak was born in 1942 near Netanya, at Kibbutz Mishmar Hasharon—which his mother, Esther Brog, an immigrant from Poland, helped found. An accomplished pianist, he earned a bachelor's degree in physics and mathematics from the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, and a master's degree in economic-engineering systems from Stanford University. He is married and has three children.

Israel's most-decorated soldier, Barak's military career spanned more than 30 years. He held key command positions in the Israel Defense Force during the 1967 Six-Day War and the 1973 Yom Kippur War.

As head of the IDF's most elite unit, he led an assault on a hijacked Belgian airliner at Ben-Gurion Airport in 1972, killing the hijackers and rescuing scores of passengers. A year later, he posed as a woman in a raid in Beirut in which three Palestinian fighters were killed.

Barak, who left the army as chief of staff

in 1995, served briefly as interior minister in Rabin's Labor-led government. Following Rabin's assassination in 1995, Barak served as foreign minister in the government led by Shimon Peres. He succeeded Peres as party leader in 1997.

As IDF chief of staff in the 1990s, he was involved in Israel's emerging peace negotiations with its Arab neighbors. He helped finalize Israel's 1994 peace treaty with Jordan, and met with his Syrian counterpart in negotiations with Damascus. He also oversaw Israel's redeployment in parts of the West Bank and Gaza Strip under the Oslo accords.

Throughout his campaign, Barak pledged to reinvigorate the Middle East peace process spearheaded by Rabin and brought to a near standstill under the three-year government of Benjamin Netanyahu.

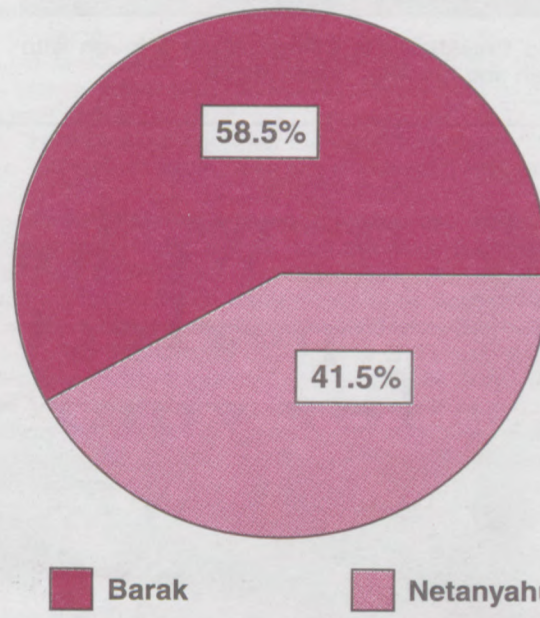
In his victory speech early Tuesday morning, Barak reiterated his commitment to achieving peace with the Palestinians—calling for a separation of the two peoples and reiterating that Jerusalem will remain the undivided capital of Israel.

On Syria, Barak has said he is open to territorial compromise on the Golan Heights, but would not return to the pre-1967 borders. Barak pledged during the campaign to pull Israeli troops out of Lebanon within a year of being elected. He has already seen a taste of what lies ahead on this track, when Katyusha rockets landed in northern Israel the day after his election.

Addressing jubilant supporters before dawn at the Tel Aviv square where Rabin was shot by the ultra-nationalist Yigal Amir, Barak promised to continue in Rabin's path. Later, he visited Rabin's grave at Jerusalem's Mount Herzl after stopping at the Western

### Vote for Prime Minister

Source: Israel Broadcasting Authority exit poll



Wall in Jerusalem.

But his first task is to bridge the deep social and ethnic divides in Israeli society, which were so starkly evident in the bitter five-month campaign that preceded his election on Monday.

In a campaign against Netanyahu carefully orchestrated with the help of U.S. political strategist James Carville, Barak assembled a Labor-led list incorporating representatives from Geshet, the predominantly Sephardi movement that champions the rights of blue-

collar Israelis, and Meimad, the moderate Orthodox movement.

"I intend to be the prime minister of all. Whatever differences there are between us, we are brothers, and brothers stay together," he declared in his victory speech after the election.

His first challenge to bring Israelis together will come in the next few weeks, when he attempts to cobble together a governing coalition from the roughly 15 parties that will have seats in Israel's next Knesset.

## Monday Morning Quarterbacking-Israeli Style Israel's Leading Pundits Analyze Election

By LYNN EDELMAN  
Editor

What were the key factors in the recent race for Israeli Prime Minister? Israel's chief political analysts—Dr. Minah Tsemach, Motti Morel and Eyal Arad—credit the rise in political clout of Russian immigrants, dissatisfaction with the influence of ultra-Orthodox factions and a stalemate in the peace process with last Monday's landslide victory of Ehud Barak over Benjamin Netanyahu.

The pundits, who analyzed the election results for participants in the 40th annual Policy Conference sponsored by the American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC) held May 23-25 in Washington, D.C., believe that the election results reflected the division between the nation's halachic and secular camps.

Arad maintains that a strong wave of Russian immigrants into Barak's "One Israel"

party greatly contributed to Netanyahu's downfall. The émigrés, who view themselves as secular, felt that the former Prime Minister allied himself too closely with Ultra-Orthodox groups. Barak, according to Arad, also benefited from a number of "swing voters"—individuals who shifted their party allegiances. "In 1984, Americans had strong numbers of Reagan Democrats. In 1999, many Israelis became Barak Likudniks and changed the dynamics of the race," he explained.

Morel believes that Barak benefited both from the internal fighting within the Netanyahu camp and public dissatisfaction with the breakdown of the Wye River Accords. "People lost their trust in Netanyahu and felt that he changed his posture to suit his audience," he said. The prime minister elect's military background inspired public confidence that Barak will negotiate a peace that would safeguard the security of Israeli citizens.

Tsemach cites public dissatisfaction with the economy as the principal factor in Netanyahu's defeat. "Israel's young voters—many of whom are experiencing difficulty finding jobs—voted largely for Barak in this election, she said, adding that "Last time, they voted for Netanyahu."

The three pundits concur that Barak must forge a strong coalition government to move his platform forward but disagree on which groups to include. Both Morel and Tsemach believe that Shas should be invited to sign on to move the peace process forward. Arad vehemently disagrees. He asserts that the Party "shows contempt for immigrants and Arabs" and will "turn over Israel's established social order." He likened Aryeh Deri, the former Shas leader recently indicted for bribery, to Nation of Islam leader Louis Farrakhan. Arad described both men as "charismatic" and dangerous. "Barak doesn't need Shas," he said, warning that "The party

threatens the very fabric of Israel's democratic system."

Who will hold leadership roles within the new administration? The analysts believe that Natan Sharansky, Minister of Industry and Trade in Netanyahu's administration will retain his political clout. "His ties to Israel's Russian community makes him a valuable ally," said Morel. Yitzhak Mordechai, Netanyahu's former Defense Minister who pulled out of the race for prime minister in the final days of the campaign, is viewed by Arad as a probable leader "to the right of center" within a new coalition regime.

All three pundits advise the prime minister elect to make good use of the 45 days afforded him by law to form a coalition government committed to resolving the economic problems and healing the rifts that exist between Israel's Sephardic and Ashkenazi Jews and its religious and secular citizens. Morel maintains that these internal conflicts "pose a far greater threat to Israel than the Arabs."

### INSIDE THE VOICE

Arts & Entertainment	16	Feature Story	2
Community Calendar	19	Federation Focus	5
Editorial	3	Israel Focus	6

Milestones	18
National & International	2
Wedding Features	8
Welcoming a new Torah	4





First Lady Hillary and President Bill Clinton share a laugh with Jordan's King Abdullah and his wife, Queen Rania.

## NATIONAL • INTERNATIONAL

# Abdullah Speaks Of Shalom

By MATTHEW DORF  
JTA

Jordan's King Abdullah stepped out from his father's shadow on his first visit to Washington since assuming the throne of the Hashemite Kingdom in early February.

Sounding much like King Hussein, and wearing a beard that reminded many of his late father, Abdullah staked out familiar territory by pledging support for the peace process and promising to do all he can to help the Palestinians

and Israelis reach a peace agreement.

But Abdullah, who has repaired relations with many Arab states strained by Jordan's peace treaty with Israel, carried messages from Syria. Israel and Syria are "at the threshold of a breakthrough," Abdullah told a delegation of some 18 Jewish officials at a meeting Monday at the Blair House in Washington.

Abdullah told the officials that Syrian President Hafez Assad referred in a recent meeting to

"when" Syria has peace with Israel, not "if," according to participants.

Abdullah's visit to Washington came in the middle of a tour of European states where the king is seeking billions of dollars in debt forgiveness. His meeting with President Clinton came the morning after Israeli Prime Minister-elect Ehud Barak defeated Benjamin Netanyahu.

Abdullah said he has high hopes for the peace process in the wake of Barak's victory. "We see eye to eye on many issues and we're very optimistic of taking the peace process forward," Abdullah told reporters in the Oval Office before meeting last Tuesday with Clinton.

Speaking to reporters Wednesday, Abdullah cautioned against the "great expectations" that came with Barak's victory. "We must be vigilant in supporting our friends, because if you have this increase of expectations and nothing happens, four or five months down the line, frustration could have an even worse backlash," he said.

Borrowing some of the language of his father, Abdullah said, "I hope that everybody will really rally behind our friends in Israel and the Palestinians, and assist them in achieving their noble aims and finally getting peace and stability and the type of world that we want to bring our children up in."

The king paid an unusual honor to his father who was an avid motorcycle rider. The late king formed a particularly close relationship with the Washington Metropolitan Police, which escorts visiting dignitaries. After meeting with Clinton, Abdullah borrowed a Harley-Davidson motorcycle and rode with the police from his hotel in downtown Washington to Maryland in tribute to his father.

During his visit, Abdullah also met with Secretary of State Madeleine Albright, congressional leaders and American businessmen. But it was Israel's election and the peace process that was the dominant topic during his stay.

Abdullah, who met with Barak last month, spoke warmly of the prime minister-elect. "I think that there's a trust and confidence between the both of us. And I am very excited that I think he is the type of man to take Israel into a new phase of peace and stability in our region."

Referring to Barak's background as Israel's most decorated soldier, Abdullah said, "Soldiers tend to be able to break barriers between each other very, very quickly."

While the Israeli election and peace process dominated Abdullah's public appearances, Jordan's struggling economy was the focus of his visit. Clinton expressed support for Abdullah's request that Japan and several European countries forgive billions of dollars in Jordanian debt. The U.S. Congress is poised to pass a measure that includes an additional \$100 million in U.S. aid to Jordan. Three years ago the United States forgave millions in Jordanian debt and increased annual U.S. foreign

Continued on page 18

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EDITORIAL

# A Proud Partnership

The excitement was palpable last week as the 40th annual American Israel Public Affairs Committee Policy Conference convened in Washington, D.C. More than 1000 delegates from every state in the nation packed the Washington Hilton Hotel to hear foreign policy experts, diplomats and high-level legislators from Israel and the Diaspora address the challenges that face the Jewish State in the days, months and years that lie ahead.

The Jewish Voice was a proud participant in this in-gathering of men and women committed to preserving the historic partnership that exists between the United States and Israel.

Despite setbacks in the peace process and the changing political climate in both nations, the ties between us have never been stronger. Vice President Al Gore and Ambassador Dennis Ross were among the many U.S. officials who publicly pledged their support of America's staunchest democratic ally.

Israel will depend upon these allegiances during the next 45 days as the new administration takes shape. On May 17th, Ehud Barak achieved a landslide victory over his political rival, Benjamin Netanyahu in the volatile race for prime minister. Israel's citizens turned out in record numbers to cast their votes. More than 70% of the population exercised their democratic duty and made their voices heard.

The high voter turnout comes as no surprise to Israeli Consul Iris Sapir. "Israelis are opinionated and passionate about the political process," she said, adding that her people are acutely aware of the consequences of political blunders. "If our leaders make mistakes, they place Israel's very security at risk," she explained.

We congratulate Mr. Barak and wish him well as he begins the awesome task of building his coalition government. May he have the wisdom of Solomon as he assembles a leadership team that is ready, willing and able to put aside partisan differences and advance the nation's domestic and international agenda.

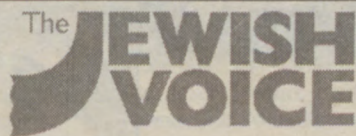
Over the coming months, this newspaper plans in-depth coverage of the new administration through interviews with political analysts, commentators and ordinary Israeli citizens who can offer insights into the complex issues and challenges that lie ahead.

We also look forward to talking with Delawareans like Rabbi Morris Goldblum and his wife Evelyn of Temple Beth Shalom of Dover and Gratz College Hebrew High School graduate Marna Lew who will spend the summer in service to residents of the Arad-Tamar region of Israel, Delaware's Partnership 2000 community. United Jewish Communities programs like these demonstrate that the ties that bind our two nations are stronger than ever before!

## Victory Remarks By Prime Minister Elect Ehud Barak

*"I stand before you tonight filled with emotion, to say to you all: thank you from the depth of my heart. We are one people. I want to be the Prime Minister of each and every one of you. We may have differences of opinion, but we are brothers, and as the Meimad motto declares, 'brothers work together'."*

**CORRECTIONS:** The Jewish Voice regrets that in the May 14th edition: Rabbi Daniel Satlow's name was misspelled; The letter to the editor praising Robert Kralovec was not initiated by Albert Einstein Academy but was a personal tribute by Craig and Sharon Sternberg; In the article written by Gene Danneman on the Newark-area Chavurah, the final paragraph was left off. It is re-run on page 17.



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## The Parsha Place

Week of May 29th

Naso

Numbers 4:21-7:89

The nazir reminds us that our task is, as Rabbi Zimmerman explains, "not to separate from our community and people and not to abstain from life's joys but rather to affirm life at its best, to join in the task of making holiness part of our lives..." Parashat Naso provides advice about how to live a life of holiness and mitzvot. The parashah includes descriptions of what was "schlepped" by the different priestly families and the equipment they used: "But to the Kohathites [Moses] did not give any [carts or oxen]; since theirs was the service of the [most] sacred objects, their portage was by shoulder." (Numbers 7:9)

We live in an age in which we are used to having other people "carry" many of our responsibilities for us. We have others pick up our children at school, cook our meals, and answer our phones. We rely on experts, lawyers, doctors, and teachers for help. But doing mitzvot - living a religious life and pursuing holiness - is not something that can be done by someone else for us. When it comes to the holy, we have to be like the Kohathites, carrying the sacred on our own shoulders.

This often means that we have to put down something else in order to be able to carry what really matters. There is an old story about a Zen master and his student who were out for a walk when they came to a raging river and heard a woman screaming for help. (Now remember, Zen masters do not touch women, and the relationship between a Zen master and student is one in which the student cannot speak to the master until he is spoken to.) The master immediately waded into the water, grabbed the woman from the current, carried her to the other side, and deposited her on the shore. All this time the student stood in silence, amazed that his teacher would violate such a sacred principle. They continued to walk until the student could contain himself no longer. He burst out suddenly and asked, "How could you do that? How could you touch that woman?" The master turned to him and replied simply, "Are you still carrying her? I put her down a long time ago."

The Zen master could carry the drowning woman because he had put down his vow in order to lift the sanctity of life. We all must put some things or ideas down in order to carry something else more sacred, something more meaningful to our life and the life of our people and our family. To do this, one has to be strong of body and strong of spirit. Perhaps the rabbis of Pirkei Avot had this in mind when they asked, "Who is strong? One who controls his/her impulses." (Pirkei Avot 4:1) To embrace an active and dynamic Jewish life, we have to be determined. We have to be dedicated in our devotion to the principles that have long guided our people. We have to be committed to overcoming the outside influences that distract us from our real work. We have to be strong enough to carry what is meaningful and enriching - what is most holy - on our own shoulders.

### Questions to Consider

Do you know what happened when the Israelites didn't follow these instructions? (Read the story of Uzza and King David in I Chronicles, chapter 13.)

What issues or problems are you still carrying that you need to put down in order to carry something more sacred?

What one new mitzvah can you and/or your family add to your life/lives? What do you need to put down so that you can do this new sacred action? When will you start? Whom do you need to help you do this?

Debra J. Robbins is the assistant rabbi at Temple Emanu-El in Dallas, TX.

## Voice Box

*"Peace is possible. If common sense and good will prevail, we can make the compromises necessary to achieve our goals."*

- Honorable Elyakim Rubenstein  
Israel's Attorney General

*"How do two nations like Israel and the Palestinian Authority resolve the dispute between them? Assassination, assimilation, deportation or dividing the lines between them are some of the options."*

- Joel Singer, Chief Negotiator  
Oslo Accords

*"The people who want to destroy Israel are creating the conflict, not the other way around. If the Palestinians could find leadership that is not based on violence to Israel, then peace will be achieved."*

- Doug Feith,  
former Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense,  
Reagan Administration

**THURSDAY NOON DEADLINE**  
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for The Jewish Voice

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JUNE 11	RESTAURANT GUIDE	JUNE 3

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# WELCOMING A NEW TORAH AT AKSE



Rabbi David Gottesman of New York on the bimah of Adas Kodesch with almost-completed Chai Torah which he wrote in Israel and New York. With him are Richard and Irene Plotzker and daughter Rosalyn Plotzker of Beth Shalom. The Plotzker family contributed a verse of the Chai Torah



Hannah Leeman, daughter of Barbara and Cantor Daniel Leeman, and mother-and-son duo Cindy and Adam Goldstein participate in the Mizrach craft project in the Centennial Room. They were 2 of the close to 100 children who tooled foil to make breastplates to have something to take home and commemorate the day.



STATE OF DELAWARE  
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THOMAS R. CARPER  
GOVERNOR

May 23, 1999

Members of Adas Kodesch Shel Emeth  
Washington Boulevard and Torah Way  
Wilmington, DE 19802

Dear Friends:

As Governor, I am pleased to congratulate Adas Kodesch Shel Emeth and its members on the dedication of its new Torah today. This is truly a special day for your congregation and I am honored to be a part of the dedication.

Much has changed since the congregation's previous "youngest" scroll was unveiled more than 70 years ago, although much has also remained the same. The influences of synagogues have continued to be vital in shaping healthy communities across Delaware. As sources of guidance, synagogues have the power to strengthen families and give children alternatives to negative behavior.

While your thoughts today rightly turn to the new Torah that will serve your congregation for years to come, we all know that a special place like Adas Kodesch Shel Emeth is much greater than the sum of the building and its physical parts. The living heart of any synagogue is its congregation -- people like each of you who laugh and love and hope and pray within its walls. Your synagogue is a place where individuals and families seek solace from hectic lives, a place where young people begin to cultivate the values that will serve them throughout life, a place where human beings show their faith through their deeds by helping and loving one another. Your congregation's dedication is evident by today's new Torah.

I wish you continued success in your personal and professional lives for years to come. Best wishes for a wonderful dedication ceremony.

Sincerely,  
*Tom Carper*  
Thomas R. Carper  
Governor

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Robert Weiner, whose optimism about the weather proved to be well-founded, carries a Torah and sign at the start of the parade of Torahs.



Harris Finkelstein carries one of the seventeen Torah scrolls previously owned by Adas Kodesch.



Crowds of people join the parade which marched onto Washington Street. There the Federation chuppa sheltered the Chai Torah for the Hakafot.



# FEDERATION FOCUS

## HB206 Undermines Church/State Separation

By **SUE SHAFFER**  
JCRC Community Relations Director

Once again, we are faced by yet another challenge to separation of Church and State. HB206, proposed by Representative Al Plant, would allow public prayer in public schools throughout the state of Delaware. As we go to press, the Bill has passed with unanimous approval through the House

Education Committee and will probably proceed to the floor of the House for action soon after they reconvene on June 2nd.

Reverend Vin Harwell, pastor of the First and Central Presbyterian Church, heads a group of concerned Christian clergy who oppose the legislation. "While I do not question the motives of Rep. Plant in seeking to respond to the rash of school violence across the country, I sincerely believe that this

proposed bill is a knee-jerk effort to seek a simple solution to a very complex problem of our society," he said, adding that "I also believe that the bill is an ill-advised and inappropriate response which will go far to undermine the separation of Church and State which benefits both the nation and its religious communities." "These efforts, he concluded, fail to recognize and respect the religious pluralism present in our schools and communi-

ties." The community is urged to launch a strong opposition effort to this legislation. Call your State sen-

ators and representatives today! For more information, please call JCRC at the Federation, 427-2100, extension 17.

## Jewish Agency Helps Kosovars Lost In The Shuffle



By **AVI MACHLIS**  
JTA

The Jewish Agency for Israel is sustaining 30,000 Kosovar Albanian refugees, living in about a dozen isolated camps in southern Albania, who have not been reached by other international aid organizations.

"We went to the camps to distribute directly where no other

relief agencies have gone," said Ziva Ohayon, managing director of Latet, an independent Israeli humanitarian group working for the Jewish Agency in Albania. "This aid can sustain these refugees for about three months."

Ohayon made her comments Wednesday to United Jewish Communities leaders on a mission to Tirana, the Albanian capital, to

assess relief work being done by the Jewish Agency and the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee.

The delegation of 27 participants from 16 communities continued from Tirana to Budapest to visit Serbian Jews who fled NATO bombings. More than 30 Serbian Jews came back with the mission to Israel early Thursday morning, where they will either "wait out" the war or decide to stay in Israel. Later Thursday, the delegation was expected to visit 111 Albanian refugees in Israel.

Mission participants said that seeing the suffering of both sides in the Yugoslav-NATO conflict reinforced their determination to continue providing humanitarian aid.

"It was very important for UJC, as a new entity, to have a firsthand, unfiltered, close-up and personal look at the rescue and relief work being done in the field by our overseas partners," said Carole Solomon, UJC national campaign chairwoman. "We have to look beyond our borders. History has forced us to do so."

Mission delegates arrived on one of two planes, carrying a total of 20 tons of relief, including food, toiletries and diapers. The Jewish Agency has airlifted 120 tons of supplies to Kosovar Albanians throughout the region on nine flights since early April.

Israelis have donated more than \$1.25 million in cash and \$500,000 worth of supplies to support the campaign. JDC's Kosovo relief efforts have raised more than \$2.25 million in the United States. JDC has been distributing mattresses, bedding and thousands of activity kits for children, including crayons, coloring books and dolls.

proudly showed off their JDC activity boxes.

In some tents, JDC boxes lay alongside cartons of aid from the Red Crescent, the Muslim relief organization, testifying to the international relief effort.

Dr. Richard Hodes, JDC's field worker who is scouring Albania to identify refugee needs, called the Piscina camp — with its neat rows of tents and organized distribution of aid — the "Hilton of the refugee camps." In camps throughout the country, refugees were living in far worse conditions.

## JFD 65th Annual Meeting

The 65th Annual Meeting of the Jewish Federation of Delaware will be held on Wednesday, June 16, 1999 at 7:30 p.m. at the Milton & Hattie Kutz Home. The entire community is invited to the meeting. Refreshments will be served. Dietary laws will be observed.

The following individuals have been nominated as officers of the Jewish Federation of Delaware June 1999 - June 2000:

- President ..... Barbara H. Schoenberg
- Vice Presidents:..... John A. Eluzfon, Esq.  
Scott Feinman  
Dr. Barry Kayne
- Secretary: ..... Jonathan P. Neipris, Esq.
- Assistant Secretary: ..... Suzanne Grant
- Treasurer:..... Alfred J. Green
- Assistant Treasurer:..... Michael Samuels

The Nominating Committee has nominated the following individuals for election to the Jewish Federation of Delaware Board of Directors:

- Three year terms ending 2002:
 

New members:	Continuing:
Dr. Vivian Klaff	Eileen Conner
Dr. Frances Klein	Susan Coonin
Adina Mattes	Ellen Levin
Robin Saran	Leslie Reidel
	Jeffrey Wasserman, Esq.
- One year term ending 2000:
 

Robert Jacobs, Esq.
Sylvan Taub

The Nominating Committee, chaired by Leslie Newman, consisted of Benjamin Berger, Steven Bernhardt, Deborah Cohen, Irwin Engelson, Ellen Levin, Caryl Marcus Stape, Joan Spiegelman, Barbara Yalisove.

Pursuant to the bylaws of the Jewish Federation of Delaware, other nominations shall be made only by written petition and the written consent of the individual nominated therein to serve on the board of directors as an officer shall be sent to the secretary of the Federation at least five days before the annual meeting. Only board members may be elected to serve as officers.


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# ISRAEL FOCUS

## Religious Pluralism Advocates Expect More Support From Barak

By MATTHEW DORF  
JTA

For those American Jews who want to see the peace process move forward and who oppose Orthodox control over religious affairs in Israel, Benjamin Netanyahu was not their man.

But will incoming Prime Minister Ehud Barak become the champion of their convictions?

Barak, 57, left the military four years ago and in the mold of slain Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, has positioned himself as a dovish security hawk.

But where does the most decorated soldier in Israel's history stand on issues of religion and state? "He has been absolutely consistent. It took him some time to reach a decision — but once he did he was absolutely immovable" in his opposition to "any legislation that divides the Jewish people," said Rabbi Ammiel Hirsch, executive director of ARZA — Association of Reform Zionists of

America.

In a 1997 interview during the height of the controversy over conversion legislation — a move to codify Israel's ban on the recognition of non-Orthodox conversions — Barak told JTA, "It's not politics when it comes to dealing with the very unity of the Jewish people."

"I will never support — and the Labor Party will never support — any legislation that threatens to divide the Jewish people," he said. It's a message that he has stuck with, say advocates of religious pluralism who have high hopes for their cause now that Barak will be leading Israel.

The Reform and Conservative movements have spent the last three years playing defense in the Knesset while waging battles in the Israeli courts to win official recognition of conversions performed by their rabbis and government funding for their institutions.

They now expect an entirely different dynamic in Israel on what

has come to be known as the pluralism controversy. But now that Barak has been elected prime minister, will he stick with his promises made as leader of the opposition or will he move to accommodate the haredim, or fervently Orthodox, in his quest for unity of the Jewish people?

The answer will be determined by how dependent Barak becomes on the Orthodox and fervently Orthodox parties that made significant gains in the recent elections to the Knesset.

Some religious pluralism advocates believe that the last Labor-led governments, under Rabin and then Shimon Peres, sacrificed those issues in order to gain support for their peace policies from the Orthodox parties. But proponents of religious pluralism believe Barak will be different.

They point to Barak's agreement with the modern Orthodox movement Meimad, which joined his One Israel party list. Labor and Meimad reached an agreement that would significantly transform the role of religion in Israel. Based on a document hammered out earlier this year dubbed the "New Covenant on Religion and State," the agreement calls for public transportation on Shabbat, as determined by the local authorities; the establishment of a framework for civil marriages in Israel, something which does not currently exist; and the transferring of jurisdiction of the religious courts from the Interior Ministry to the Ministry of Justice.

At the same time, it bars all business and commercial transactions on Shabbat with the exception of cultural, sport and leisure activities.

Ismar Schorsch, chancellor of the Conservative movement's Jewish Theological Seminary, said he expects Barak to follow the covenant as he seeks to reduce secular-religious tensions.

But at the same time, Schorsch predicted, Barak will tread carefully because "this government is not going to turn against the Orthodox." During his campaign this year, Barak reiterated his opposition to any legislation that would delegitimize Reform and Conservative Jews, including the controversial conversion bill.

"We will block it, we will not let it pass, we will raise our hands against it, period," he told American Jewish activists in Israel earlier this year.

In January, he voted against Knesset legislation that would prevent non-Orthodox Jews from serving on local religious councils.

But Barak has stayed away from some other critical Knesset votes on the issue in recent years, including one in which Israel's parliament last May overwhelmingly rejected legislation calling for the separation of religion and state.

He also skipped a rally in Jerusalem in February in support of the Israeli Supreme Court. The rally was held to counter a 250,000-strong Orthodox prayer demonstration called to protest what the organizers termed the "anti-religious" rulings of the high court.

Once Barak is in power — he must form a government within 45 days — the non-Orthodox are expecting dramatic changes in the way Israel approaches the religious pluralism issue.

Still, much will depend on whether Barak decides to bring Shas, the fervently Orthodox party that garnered a projected 17 seats in this week's voting, into his coalition government. Many observers believe that even if the new premier does bring Shas in to the government, he will not have to depend on the party for his political survival the way Netanyahu did.

Hirsch said he anticipates that there will be "some kind of empathetic, sympathetic treatment from government."

But some Orthodox Jews in America are not so quick to dismiss the influence of the religious parties in Israel. Rabbi Avi Shafran, director of public relations for Agudath Israel of America, said, "We'll see when push comes to shove" if Barak sticks to his campaign promises.

"We're hoping he will be, as he put it, 'everybody's prime minister,'" said Shafran, who also serves as the American director of Am Echad, a group dedicated to maintaining Orthodox control over religious matters in Israel in the interest of Jewish unity.

Dr. Mandell Ganchrow, president of the Orthodox Union, is one of many Orthodox activists hoping

that Barak will include some religious parties in his coalition.

"It's not going to be what it was, but we should not say automatically the Orthodox community has lost its political punch," he said. Ganchrow expressed concern about the success of the new anti-religious party, Shinui, and of Meretz, which together garnered 15 Knesset seats.

Reflecting on that development, Ganchrow said, "We shouldn't just attack the results. We should ask ourselves privately why people feel such antagonism toward the haredi." "You have to say, 'Is there something we can do as a community to reduce this antagonism,'" Ganchrow said.

Hirsch, meanwhile, said that the Reform movement would continue to press its case in the Israeli courts, where we "expect results which will not be overturned or ignored."

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# ISRAEL FOCUS

## Don't Expect Israel To Change Overnight

**By DAVID BAR-ILLAN**  
 Communications Director, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu  
 Reprinted from the Daily Telegraph

Ehud Barak's landslide victory on Monday was not a triumph for Israel's Labour party. Unlike the victories of Tony Blair and Gerhard Schroder, Barak's election has brought no shift from Right to Left. Nor was it a victory for Israel's

doves. On the contrary, even after incorporating into its ranks the dovish religious party Meimad and the social-agenda party Geshet, Labour lost more than a fifth of its Knesset seats. And while Netanyahu's own party, the Likud, was even more thoroughly trounced, its votes went to other right-of-centre parties, not to the dovish Left.

It is, then, a personal rather than

an ideological victory for Mr Barak. Or, more precisely, a personal repudiation of Benjamin Netanyahu.

Most observers view this as an inevitable result of a long, vituperative campaign which focused on personalities rather than issues. On a personal level, Netanyahu was far more vulnerable than Barak. Throughout the three years of his stewardship, he was savaged by a

merciless media assault on his character, abetted by unsubtle calumnies from world leaders irritated both by his policies and arrogant manner.

By the election, he had become everyone's favourite villain, an enemy of peace, a man devoid of principles and incapable of telling the truth. That no one could point to a single major discrepancy between his promises and his per-

formance seemed immaterial. To berate Netanyahu and wish his downfall became politically correct. "Unseat Netanyahu and save the peace," went the conventional wisdom.

In fact, few leaders have been more consistent than Netanyahu. Unlike his martyred predecessor, Yitzhak Rabin - who had vowed never to recognise the PLO, never

Continued on page 18

## Gore Rejects Palestinian Demands

**By MATTHEW DORF**  
 JTA

Vice President Al Gore is siding with Israel in two key disputes with the Palestinian Authority.

Speaking to the American Israel Public Affairs Committee last Sunday, Gore rejected Palestinian demands to resurrect the United Nations' 1947 Partition Plan that divided Palestine into Jewish and Arab states with Jerusalem as an international city.

"The only basis for Israeli-Palestinian negotiations" are U.N. Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 and the principle of land for peace, Gore said, prompting applause from delegates at the pro-

Israel lobby's annual policy conference.

Resolutions 242 and 338, which called on Israel to return an unspecified amount of the territory captured during the 1967 Six-Day War, has been interpreted to recognize a minimum Israel's 1949 borders.

Gore also said the United States would boycott a scheduled July 15 international meeting in Geneva proposed by the Palestinians to protest Israel's settlement policies in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

The meeting would bring together signatories of the 1949 Fourth Geneva Convention, which governs treatment of civilians during

wartime. The conference is a badly disguised attempt to single out Israel for criticism," Gore said, adding that the United States would urge other nations to boycott the session as well.

Israel's ambassador to the United States, Zalman Soval, who sat on the dais during Gore's speech, said he was "very pleased" with the vice president's "positive" remarks.

"We are very glad our view has now been shared by the administration and by no less a spokesman than the vice president," he said. With regard to resurrecting the

Continued on page 18



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# WEDDINGS

## A Bible For All Who Are Betrothed

Reviewed By  
**NINA LIGHT**  
Supplements Editor  
Cleveland Jewish News

If the only thing you and your beloved know for sure about your wedding is that you want to get married, Helen Latner's *The Everything Jewish Wedding Book* may help get you started.

This guide covers it all: Introducing both sets of parents (or more, if divorce is involved). Booking a reception site. Incorporating Jewish traditions into an interfaith ceremony. Deciding what name a woman should take after marriage. What to tip the caterer and other professionals. What to do if you receive

damaged gifts and more. The book even provides guidelines for unexpected events, like proceeding with the ceremony if a relative has died, and offering suggestions for telling already invited guests that an engagement has been broken.

The easy-to-read book is organized into 17 chapters. Snippets of information ranging from why the groom breaks the glass at the end of the ceremony, to where to find Jewish musicians, to the impropri-

ety of having a cash bar at the reception are included in shaded columns in the book's margins.

A glossary of Jewish wedding terms, calendar and to-do list, and forms for submitting engagement announcements to newspapers are also provided. To simplify planning the various aspects of a distinctly Jewish wedding, couples will also find checklists for a *kiddush*, pre-wedding (rehearsal) dinner and *aufruf*.

If the book has one failing, it is

that the guidelines are too exhaustive. Couples who weren't sure where to begin in planning their wedding may feel their heads spinning after considering 288 pages of suggestions and instructions.

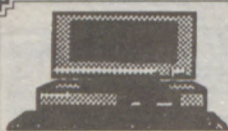
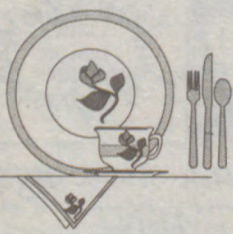
Smart couples will not take the guidelines too seriously. They'll follow a piece of advice here and there, then trust their own instincts. After all, a wedding should be a reflection of a man and woman's personalities, not that of an etiquette expert.

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## So Your Best Friend's Getting Married...

By **MARC LEFKOWITZ**  
Staff Reporter

*The Cleveland Jewish News*

Your best friend is getting hitched and wants you to stand up at the wedding, or you're engaged and must select who will be in your bridal party. Piece of wedding cake, you think. But do you really know what you're getting into?

Duties of the bridesmaids and groomsmen may seem amorphous, casual, ever-changing. But tradition still calls for the bridal party to perform a few standard duties. The following is a general guideline culled from wedding eti-

quette books and area wedding planners on what is traditionally expected of the wedding party:

**Who is selected for the wedding party?**

The maid/matron of honor and best man are usually a sister, brother, or closest friend. Bridesmaids and groomsmen are usually chosen from close friends and relatives, including your intended's siblings. To include younger relatives in the wedding party, ask them to serve as flower girls, ring bearers or ushers.

**Why are attendants included in the ceremony?**

Many explanations exist for why we have wedding processions. Richard Leviton, author of *Weddings by Design*, says it is through the procession that the community honors the couple and their intentions. "The couple may never again experience such unconditional love from their community and family," Leviton says. "But for the duration of the wedding, they move through holy, sanctified space and are unblemished and beyond criticism."

**What is expected of the bridal party in terms of finances?**

If the wedding is formal, the groomsmen are generally asked to pay for the rental of a tuxedo (\$70 to \$100), and the bridesmaids are expected to purchase a dress, which can run from \$100 on up.

**What is expected of the wedding party before the big day?**

Planning the bridal shower, helping unwrapped gifts and recording who gave what at the shower are usually the duties of the maid or matron of honor. Occasionally, says Bobby Rosner, a wedding coordinator, the maid or matron of honor may fashion bouquets at the shower for the bridesmaids to use at the wedding rehearsal. "They take the ribbon (from the shower) and run them through holes in paper plates," she says. "Then the bridesmaids can pretend as if they're carrying real bouquets." A bridal shower doesn't have to follow strict tradition, says bridal consultant Amy Finkenthal. These days many bridesmaids are throwing couples' showers, she says. "It could be on a Friday or Saturday night for the men and women, like a cookout or an informal evening. It just adds another option."

Other ways bridesmaids or groomsmen have added value to

their role include creating a skit that captures their memories of the bride or groom. "It can be a poem or song, something funny or roasty to perform possibly at the rehearsal dinner," Finkenthal says.

Pampering the bride for a day with manicures, massage or a surprise shower can also be a bridesmaid's "duty." The same goes for the bachelor and bachelorette dinners, both generally planned by the best man and maid or matron of honor, respectively.

"The girls' night out can be a mystery place where you rent a limo and (the bride) will have no idea where they're going," Finkenthal suggests. "For the guys, the sky's the limit."

**What is expected of attendants on the day of the wedding?**

"The most important (duty for the bridal party) is for them to be where they're supposed to be, when told, and to behave themselves properly," says Rosner. The matron of honor may be asked to help bustle (fasten the hooks and snaps on) the bride's gown while anyone in the bridal party may be called upon to run last-minute errands. The most important duty for the groomsmen is ushering the arriving guests to their seats, Rosner says. "Beside the music, this definitely sets the tone for a lovely ceremony. And the ceremony is the most important part of the wedding."

The groomsmen are usually at the synagogue when the bride and groom are signing the ketubah. To make the ketubah binding, the couple will need two witnesses who are not blood relatives to sign. Therefore, they will sometimes ask two members of the wedding party to bear witness and inscribe their names.

While some of their traditional duties may have fallen by the wayside in the late 1990s, the maid or matron of honor and the best man are still the busiest people in the wedding party. Each usually holds onto one of the wedding rings and presents it during the ceremony.

Also during the ceremony, the maid or matron of honor should hold the bride's bouquet and help the bride turn back the blushing veil when it's time to drink the wine, Rosner says. After the ceremony, the maid or matron of honor should give the bouquet back to the bride and make sure that the train of the bride's gown is behind her for the recessional.

### JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER ANNUAL MEETING TO INCLUDE ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The 65th Annual Meeting of the Jewish Community Center of Delaware will be held on Sunday, June 27, 1999 at 4:00 p.m. at the Family Campus, 101 Garden of Eden Road.

The Nominating Committee, chaired by Daniel L. Klein, has nominated the following individuals for election to the Board of Directors of the JCC.

The following have been nominated for elected officers for a one year term:

President.....	Richard Stat
Vice Presidents.....	David Bernstein
	Amy Leviton
	Connie Sugarman
	Michael Weiss
Treasurer.....	Irv Becker
Assistant Treasurer.....	Martin Lessner
Secretary.....	Caryl Marcus Stape
Assistant Secretary.....	Robert Cooper

The following have been nominated for a three year term:

Marcia Aersonson	Mark Levitt
Sarah Baker Andrus	David Margules
Sandi Bernstein	Andrew Taub
Rachel Harad	Aida Wasserstein

The following have been nominated for a two year term:

Elliot Golinkoff  
Leonard Kahn  
Robert Shandfeldt

The following have been nominated for a one year term:

Mark Albom	Richard Stat
Amy Leviton	Connie Sugarman

According to Article VII, Section I of the By-Laws of the Jewish Community Center: "At least three months before the Annual Meeting, the President shall appoint a Nominating Committee, to meet at least two months before the Annual Meeting, consisting of seven members in good standing. Four of whom shall be members of the Board of Directors. At time of said appointment, notice will be posted that the Committee will be meeting and suggestions may be submitted. This Committee shall nominate a slate of officers and members as candidates for the vacancies which shall exist on the Board of Directors, but in no event shall any members of the Nominating Committee be nominated by the Committee as an officer or director. No further nominations shall be submitted to the Annual Meeting."



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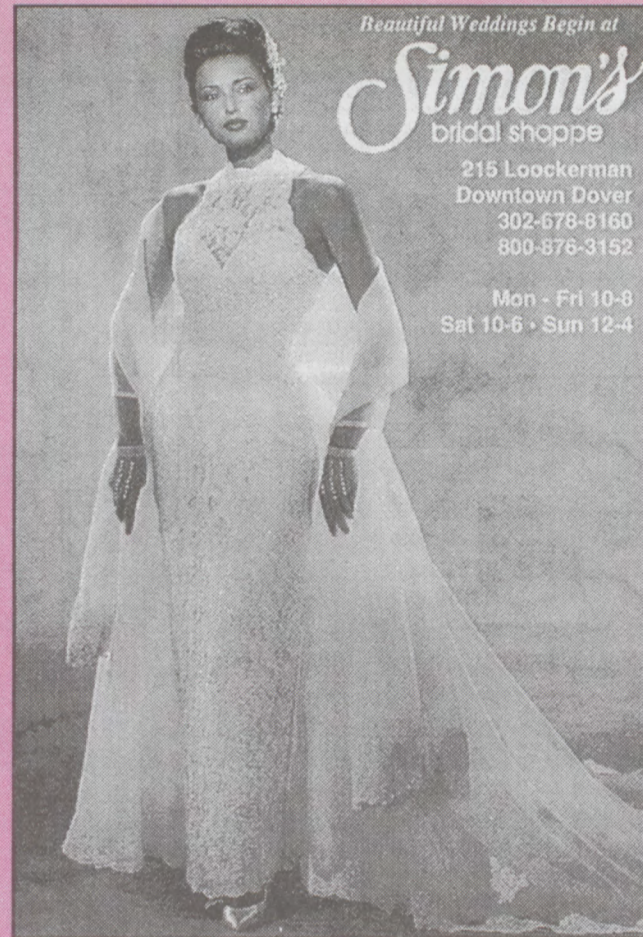
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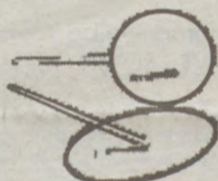


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## ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT



(L-R) Tyne Firmin and Nancy Slusser star as Hard-Boiled Herman and Lady Jane in "Rose-Marie" through June 6 at The Media Theatre.

### Book Review - Transporting The Jewish Soul

For the Relief of Unbearable Urges  
Stories by Nathan Englander  
Alfred A. Knopf, New York 1999  
\$22.00

By  
**MARION YAGER HAMERMESH**

The young face that stares out from the back of the book jacket believes the wisdom contained inside. Looking more like a Botticelli prince than a prize winning writer from New York and Jerusalem (by way of the Iowa Writers Workshop), Nathan Englander is the author of a volume of short stories which transport the reader through a vivid landscape scattered with diverse characters who have at least their Jewishness in common. Each story is a gem, refracting the

light of Jewish souls, illuminating our knowledge of ourselves, our ancestors, our neighbors. From the unlikely holocaust survivors to the Rabbi's schizophrenic brother,

from the agunah trapped to a different husband looking for a different release, Nathan Englander writes about us with a love that is not blind. The clarity of his vision is contagious; as with any great book, the experience of reading his stories was transformative. In those

days during which these characters were my companions the fog of a tense dreary winter finally lifted from me and brought me fully here to the clear light of spring. I couldn't have waited for the paperback.

## Newark JCC K'ton ton Camp

The Jewish Community Center will bring its high quality camp program to the Newark area this summer! The JCC which currently serves over 500 children for summer camp and over 200 children for pre-school, will offer a one-week camp program for children ages 4 and 5 this August for children in the Newark area, to be housed at Temple Beth El on Possum Park Road.

The focus of the camp will be a

balance of Judaics, Arts & Crafts and outdoor activities. The theme for the program is "Beginnings." In the beginning every experience is important. A child learns through each experience every day, and this summer they can enjoy many new experiences in a caring, nurturing environment.

For more information on fees and dates, please call JCC K'ton ton Director Susan Gentry at 478-5660, ext. 242.

### Mazel Tov

A hearty Yasher Koach to the members of the Adult B'nai Mitzvah Class at Congregation Beth Sholom in Dover. May they go from strength to strength.

## A Good Old Fashioned Musical

By **PAULA SHULAK**

If you want to enjoy a good old fashioned "boy meets girl" musical with

some fabulous singing and opulent costuming, make a trip to see ROSE MARIE, playing at the Media Theatre until June 5. From the moment you see the stage curtain festooned with hearts until the show ends "happily ever after", you will be enthralled with the mag-

nificent voices of Kyle Gonyea and Maureen Francis who portray the fur trapper and his innocent sweetheart caught in an 1890's intrigue in Canada. Although there are only two familiar songs (Rose Marie and

Indian Love Call), the rafters ring with the powerful choral sound of the stalwart Canadian Mountie chorus. This is a wonderful Rudolf Friml score and the audience on opening night showed recognition of its musical excellence by a standing ovation. Comedy was not overlooked as Tyne Firmin and Nancy Slusser portrayed Hard Boiled Herman and Lady Jane, the rough and tumble clowns of the piece. They were exuberant and energetic and make a very good comic team with their wonderfully camp over-acting. Also doing an excellent job were Eric Wallbruch as Sergeant Malone, the Mountie to the rescue, and Noreen MacDonald, the vil-

lains of the show.

Although the production was very enjoyable and the direction was well done, there is still one problem which remains troublesome at the Media Theatre and that is the spotty lighting. Beautiful staging is fine but not if it can't be seen and too often the stage is just plain too dark. The show also could have done without the minuet number. But aside from this

minor inconvenience ROSE MARIE is a real tearjerker that has sonorous choral sound, fascinating choreography and spine tingling musical solos. Tickets can be obtained by calling 610-566-4020.

## "FAME"

### A High Energy Playhouse Production

By **Paula Shulak**

From the moment the audience entered the Playhouse in Wilmington during the recent run of FAME - THE MUSICAL, they were transported. Psychedelic lighting on the stage set, accompanied by piped in street sounds, brought an aura of the big city that was unmistakable. And when the energetic acting ensemble began its rousing performance, the audience knew they were in for a real treat! There is a little bit of everything in this production conceived by David De Silva with book by Jose Fernandez, music by Steve Margoshes and lyrics by Jaques Levy. The music is varied (ranging from heart rending ballad to rap-style fugue, gospel to classical violin) and the choreography is spectacular (from roller-skating to acrobatics, ballet to break dancing) but that is to be expected when the story takes place in New York's High School of Performing Arts. We follow students from their freshman acceptance letters through four years of joy, disillusion, growth and change until they graduate singing the stirring "Bring on Tomorrow" number, which in my book could easily rival the familiar showstopper, "Fame".

The multi ethnic cast formed a cohesive whole, but there were a few who deserve special mention. Dioni Michelle Collins' portrayal of an overweight comedian (Mabel Washington) was sensational as was her gospel singing. Jennifer Gambatase (Serena Katz) sang up a storm, playing a difficult adolescent role very well. Natasha Neary (Carmen Diaz) was a scintillating Hispanic dancer who performed the title song in an unforgettable manner but ultimately succumbed to the lure of the drug scene. And last but not least, Dwayne Chattman (Tyrone Jackson), inner tensions seething, created the character of ghetto teen out to conquer the world—weighted down by his inability to read. He does know how to act, sing and dance, however and astounded all.

FAME could have been just another great song and dance

show but by adding elements like drug problems, illiteracy and the dichotomy between academics and arts in education, the authors offer

us much more to consider. Director Lars Bethke has given us a downright excellent production.

## Last Call For The Big Slam

By **Paula Shulak**

Sleek, sophisticated and disrespectful — that about sums up City Theater Company's latest offering of THE BIG SLAM by Bill Corbett. Touted as "poisonously funny" you might subtitle this play "Nice Guys Finish Last". It is coarse humor combined with a very literate script and it is performed exceedingly well. The only thing one would ask, however, is that the female members of the cast turn down the volume a little bit.

Opera Delaware studios, where the play is performed, is very small and the decibel level of the performers is inordinately high. As a spoof aimed at contemporary business get rich schemes and self motivation seminars, the script really hits its mark, but audiences must also have a high tolerance level for gratuitous sex scenes and very strong language.

Director Michael Gray does a wonderful job especially in the pin point lighting effects and the clever opening choreography (unique in a non musical). Perhaps the exaggerated gesturing used by the actors is a bit overdone, but it does make its point. Timing and pace is of the essence in this type of comedy and Patrick Hunt (as Orrin, the put-upon friend) is a master. His performance is spectacular; every nuance of his character is extracted and laid out for us to relish. George Tietze (as the bombastic, conniving Russell) plays his part well and with the exception of the volume of their voices, both Melissa Dammeyer (as the vengeful, greedy Stephanie) and Kerry Kristine McLrone as Gail (the UPS girl

turned artist) keep us in stitches. There is little subtlety in this basically one joke show, but it is an experience in theater that you may not want to miss. The production runs through May 29. Tickets are \$15 and are available by calling 302-654-4468.

## Michael Feinstein Brings Cabaret Show To The Playhouse Theatre

Michael Feinstein will bring his cabaret show to the Playhouse Theatre in Wilmington for a one-night only performance. This musical salute to George Gershwin, Cole Porter and other American composers will be presented on June 15th at 8 p.m. Feinstein's performance benefits the Delaware Theatre Company, the Brandywine Valley's only resident professional theatre company. Tickets are available by calling 594-1100 or online at [www.delawaretheatre.org](http://www.delawaretheatre.org).

### LIVE JEWISH

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LOCAL

Fostering A Sense Of Community

By GENE DANNEMAN

I am a member of a mostly Newark-based Chavurah that has been meeting for the last 18 years. Members who started in Newark and moved away continue to attend our meetings. We are a group of many personalities that has lasted despite many heated as well as many loving discussions. We vary by age group, by synagogue affiliation, by background, and by degree of religious, Jewish, and Israel affiliation. We have supported one another through member's pregnancies and helping their children grow and the pregnancies of their children and watching their grandchildren grow and we have supported members through serious illnesses and life crises.

We usually study together once a month, rotating through members homes. We also rotate the discussion leader. The topics are usually of Jewish significance. Sometimes we go through a book together chapter by chapter and sometimes we celebrate a holiday together. We have taken trips to see Jewish theater, Jewish museum exhibits, Jewish concerts, and Jewish historical sites. Like most Jewish groups we love to eat together and find many opportunities to get together for a potluck dinner. We have learned to handle who can't eat dairy and who can't eat onions, and who must have chocolate at every occasion. We just celebrated Israel's birthday together with dinner and a songfest.

The Newark Jewish Community Outreach Committee invites you to join us.

Some possibilities for groups are people who have interests in the following: the outdoors, Friday night Shabbat potluck dinners, movies, games, singles, women's studies, book discussions, seniors, environment/ecology and any other interests your group may have. Let us know if you are interested and we will try to get you together with like minded people to start a group. Leave your name, phone number and interests at 368-4685.



Dover Synagogue Elects New Officers

Charlotte Zaback (left) outgoing President of Congregation Beth Sholom of Dover presents the slate of officers for 1999-2000 at a recent luncheon at the Blue Coat Inn. Incoming President Carolyn Schwartz (right) is ready to take up the gavel when she and her fellow officers are installed during Shabbat services on Friday, June 4, 7:30 p.m.

Congregation's Mitzvah Day Repeats Outreach To The Community

More than 325 Congregation Beth Emeth members — from toddlers to seniors, individuals to entire families served the Wilmington area community in many different ways on the Reform congregation's third annual Mitzvah Day.

Congregants socialized with nursing home residents, visited hospital patients, did grounds work and spring clean-ups for agencies as diverse as the Delaware Humane Society, Brandywine Zoo, Ronald McDonald House, Catholic Charities, and the Delaware Nature Society.

Nearly twenty agencies and hundreds of their clients benefited from the congregation's desire to share its blessings on this day of coordinated outreach.

Congregation Beth Emeth's Mitzvah Day has been patterned after similar, successful programs organized by Reform Jewish congregations throughout the United States. A planning committee worked for months to put the program together by involving community agencies and congregation volunteers.

Temple Beth El 1999 Confirmands



1st row: Jeff Eisenberg, Rachel Suekoff, Leah Prager, Jessica Coombs, Carolyn Roth. 2nd row: Jason Long, David Penneys, Josh Kagel, Robyn Gelman. 3rd row: Danny Simmons, Alexander Snyder-Mackler, Michael Davidson.

Jessica Coombs, daughter of Tim and Mayda Coombs

Michael Davidson, son of Jeff and Jane Davidson.

Jeff Eisenberg, son of Ken Eisenberg and Jeannette Eisenberg.

Robyn Gelman, daughter of Bob and Diana Gelman.

Josh Kagel, son of Alan and Karen Kagel.

Jason Long, son of Tom and Elaine Long.

David Penneys, son of Robert and Nancy Penneys.

Leah Prager, daughter of Ken and Terry Prager.

Carolyn Roth, daughter of Bryan and Kathy Roth.

Dan Simmons, son of Robert and Roselena Simmons.

Alexander Snyder-Mackler, son of Scott Mackler and Lynn Snyder-Mackler.

Rachel Suekoff, daughter of Lee and Roni Suekoff.



Beth Emeth Sunday School students working on craft projects to be distributed to hospitals and nursing homes through New Castle County Mitzvah Day - April 18, 1999.



Beth Emeth Congregants preparing meals for Ronald McDonald House. Sojourners and Peacemeal on third annual Mitzvah Day - April 18, 1999.

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## MILESTONES



Gregg and Edye Darish

### Betrothed

Gloria and Paul Fine of Montchanin, DE and Joy and Victor Darish of Trumbull, CT and Quechee, VT announce the marriage of their children, Edye Fine and Gregg Darish. The ceremony took place July 18, 1998 at the Hotel DuPont in Wilmington, DE. Rabbi Peter Grumbacher of Congregation Beth Emeth officiated. A reception at the Hotel followed the ceremony.

Gayle Fine and Tammy Fine, sisters of the bride served as the maids of honor, Jessica Ferris, niece of the groom, served as the flower girl. Alison Quartin, Lori Ferris, sister of the groom, Beth Koniver and Beth DiLullo served as bridesmaids.

Gary Worley served as best man. James Balfanz, Marc VanGeuns, Steven Ferris, brother-in-law of the groom, and Darren Perl served as ushers.

Gayle Fine and Tammy Fine witnessed the signing of the ketubah.

Completing the wedding party were Ida Darish, grandmother of the groom and Alvan Sperber, grandfather of the groom.

Edye is the granddaughter of the late Gloria and Leonard Strick and the late Ann and Edward Fine. Gregg is the grandson of the late Gertrude Sperber.

After a honeymoon in Hawaii, the couple resides in Brookline, MA.

### Welcome Dara Schwartz

Pam-Sue and Michael Schwartz and big brother, Alex Philip, welcome the arrival of their precious daughter and sister, Dara Renee. Dara was born on Saturday, May 1<sup>st</sup>, 1999 in Wilmington. She is the

granddaughter of Judy and Max Schwartz of Wilmington and bubbe Phyliss Katz of Philadelphia. Dara is named in memory of zayde Bernard Katz and great-aunt Ruthie Hoffman.

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## Don't Expect Israel To Change Overnight

Continued from page 7

to negotiate with Yasser Arafat and never to relinquish the Golan, but was ready to renege on all three - Netanyahu did not deviate from what he said he would do. He scrupulously adhered to the Oslo accords, while insisting that the Palestinians reciprocate by fulfilling their commitment to combat terrorism. With such reciprocity, he said, the Oslo principle of "territory for peace" might work. Without it, the formula would become the sheer insanity of "territory for terrorism".

This insistence on Palestinian participation in the anti-terrorist effort is undoubtedly responsible, at least in part, for the dramatic decline in terrorist activity in the past three years. It is a considerable achievement, considered virtually unattainable not long ago. But it was lost in the avalanche of personal invective.

Nor has the world noticed that Netanyahu was the first Likud leader who made most of his followers accept the partitioning of the Land of Israel. His agreements with the Palestinians, unlike those signed by the Labour government, enjoyed overwhelming support both in the Knesset and with the public. They were an affirmation of a historic truism: only political hawks can have the broad support necessary to make peace.

But perhaps Netanyahu's most impressive achievement was in the economic sphere. The Likud-led government began a transformation of the Israeli economy - moving it from irresponsible spending and stifling centralisation to budgetary prudence and free-market principles. In three years it halved inflation, made unprecedented cuts in the national budget, dramatically reduced the trade deficit, privatised more than all previous governments put together, deregulated the currency, attracted more foreign investments than ever, and

survived the worldwide economic crisis - all without raising taxes. The world's leading economists have praised Netanyahu's performance, but these achievements, too, were overshadowed by the campaign rhetoric.

Such rhetoric does have the advantage of becoming obsolete, irrelevant and eminently forgettable the day after the election. And in facing the business of government, Barak will find that the Netanyahu legacy is both solid and helpful.

The world, used to blaming Netanyahu for the freeze in the peace negotiations, expects Barak to "put the peace process back on track". But the problems of the peace process have little to do with personality. There is little difference between Barak's vision of the "final status" agreement with the Palestinians and Netanyahu's. Both are committed to an undivided Jerusalem as the capital of Israel, both consider the Jordan valley to be Israel's strategic border, both oppose withdrawing to the 1967 armistice lines, and both have pledged to keep the settlements under Israeli control.

That Barak may be willing to concede a little more of the West Bank to the Palestinians than Netanyahu would is hardly enough to bridge the gap with Palestinians ambitions. Even what Barak feels Israel can safely forfeit is far short of the Palestinians' minimum demands.

This irreconcilable gap makes expectations for quick progress in the peace negotiations less than realistic. There are those who expect Barak to form a coalition with parties to his Left, including the Arab parties, and accede to Palestinian demands. The "peace now" camp in Israel, as well as the European governments and some influential elements in the US administration, believe that the establishment of a Palestinian state

with Jerusalem as its capital will conduce to peaceful coexistence between Israelis and Palestinians.

But even if Barak wishes to reach such an agreement with the Palestinians, he does not have the coalition in the Knesset to support it. Nor is it likely such a solution could ever be sold to the Israeli public.

While most Israelis seem to believe that the Oslo process would inevitably produce a Palestinian state, very few support the establishment of such a state unless it is demilitarised. This means that it must be prevented from allowing terrorists from operating from its territory, raising a large army, concluding treaties with such regimes as Iraq and Iran, and importing thousands of "volunteers" to join its armed forces. In short, it cannot be fully sovereign.

The recent Palestinian insistence on reviving the UN partition resolution of 1947 as the basis for Palestinian-Israeli peace makes the difficulties loom even larger. This 52-year-old UN recommendation, rendered null and void by the Arab war against its implementation, is a prescription for Israel's destruction deemed unacceptable by all Israelis.

Nor is Barak's intention to resume talks with Syria and his pledge to withdraw from Lebanon by May 2000 likely to be easily realised. The Syrians are demanding an Israeli commitment to relinquish the whole Golan before they agree to negotiate either peace with Israel or Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon.

It is, then, unrealistic to expect drastic changes in Israeli policies as a result of the election. What is more likely is a change in style, which many would welcome, and which may improve the government's image both internally and abroad. If Barak can achieve greater understanding for Israel's position, his personal victory will truly be a turning point in Israel's history.

### Gore

Continued from page 7

Partition Plan, Palestinian officials have cited that plan, known as U.N. General Assembly Resolution 181, as the basis for their claims to statehood and the return of refugees who fled their homes during Israel's War of Independence.

The Arabs rejected the plan when it was first proposed, leading to Israel's declaration of statehood, which the Arab states rejected by launching war against the new entity.

Despite his rejection of the Palestinians' bid to revive the Partition Plan and to focus on Israeli settlements in Geneva,

Gore, during his 30-minute speech to AIPAC, expressed strong support for both Israel and the Palestinians.

"The Palestinian people must be free to determine their own future. They must be able to live freely and in safety," Gore said, echoing President Clinton's recent promise to Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat.

"At the same time Israel must have defined and secure borders.

Israel must live free from the fear of terror," he said. In the wake of Israeli Prime Minister-elect Ehud Barak's victory, these goals can be achieved, Gore said.

Barak's "remarkable record in defense of Israel's security makes him an immensely credible voice in support of peace," he said. Moments like AIPAC's president, Lonny Kaplan, read a message from Barak to the delegates in which the prime minister-elect sought to silence growing tensions between members of his Labor Party and AIPAC.

Barak, who declined an invitation to speak via satellite to the conference, said in a letter to delegates, "Historically important tasks lie ahead of us, and only joining hands together can bring about their successful accomplishment."

Barak's associates have criticized the group for tilting toward Benjamin Netanyahu in Israel's election, a charge the pro-Israel lobby vehemently denies.

Meanwhile, a senior Clinton administration official denied a USA Today report that Barak and Arafat recently reached an accord regarding the future of Jerusalem.

"There's nothing going on," U.S. Middle East peace envoy Dennis Ross said in a brief inter-

view Monday after delivering a speech to AIPAC. "Barak is working on forming a government."

Ross earlier told AIPAC delegates to approach such reports "with great skepticism." Senior Palestinian officials also reportedly denied the story as "baseless."

### Abdullah

Continued from page 2

aid to Jordan to \$250 million.

"We are also very much committed to Jordan's economic renewal," Clinton said before meeting with Abdullah. Clinton promised to help Abdullah convince other countries to forgive some of Jordan's outstanding debts. "Other nations could help more," Clinton said. "I would like to see more action on that."

Even with increased aid and debt forgiveness, the growth of Jordan's economy comes down to the success of the peace process, Abdullah said.

"The lack of movement on the economic front between Israel and Jordan was a direct result of a stagnation in the peace process."

"If we could move things ahead, I think that the whole area will bloom," he said.



# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Entries for the Calendar of Events are due on the Thursday deadline published in *The Jewish Voice*. Please provide entries in the same format as seen on this page. *The Jewish Voice* fax number is 427-2438.

**MAY**

**Sunday 29**  
Reservation deadline for Congregation Beth Shalom Night at the Blue Rocks. Reserve your ticket for this June 29<sup>th</sup> event by calling 654-4462.

**Monday 31**  
Celebrate Israel's 51st year of independence at Café Tamar, 7:30 p.m. in the Adas Kodesch social hall. Israeli dancing, food and fun. Call 762-2705 for more information.

**JUNE**

**Tuesday 1**  
Applications are being accepted through June 11th for "Internship in Israel," a program open to college graduates and third year students, ages 20-30. Sponsored by Israel's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the program is designed to strengthen the bond between young Jewish professionals around the world and the State of Israel through a long-term service commitment at government, public or private institutions that closely match their area of expertise. Internships will begin in October, 1999 after the high holidays. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the host institutes will cover the cost of housing, medical insurance, tours and seminars. Airfare is the responsibility of the interns. To receive an application, call the Jewish Federation of Delaware at 427-2100.

**Monday 7**  
"Creative Self Expression" an informal and lively discussion group will be led by Jewish Family Service at the JCC Senior Center, 12:30 p.m. The program is free. Please call Stacey, 478-9411 for more information.

**Tuesday 8**  
"Memory Enhancement Tips." A workshop and discussion will be presented by Jewish Family

Service at Ingleside Retirement Apartments, 10:00 a.m. Call Martha at 478-9411 for more information about this free program.

**Wednesday 9**  
"Creative Self Expression," a JFS discussion group, will be presented at B'nai B'rith House beginning at 10:30 a.m. Call Stacey at 478-9411 for more information.

**Sunday 27**  
The Jewish Community Center of Delaware hosts its annual Jewish Community Showcase, 2-6 p.m. The event features a variety of entertainment, games and activities for the entire family. Demonstrations of recreation and fitness classes and facility tours will also be offered. At 4 p.m., come to the 65th Annual Meeting of the JCC then stay for a family barbecue dinner served from 5 to 6 p.m. For more information, call Ella Zukoff at 478-5660.

**RENT "THE LONG WAY HOME" AT THE JCC**

"The Long Way Home", an award-winning film that explores the plight of the tens of thousands of refugees who survived the Holocaust, has been recently added to the Jewish Heritage Video Collection, housed in the JCC lobby. Thanks to a grant from Ira and Barbara Lipman of Tennessee, the film has been made available to every JCC in the nation through the Simon Wiesenthal Center's Moriah Film Division. Nightly rentals are \$2. For more info., please call Ella Zukoff at 478-5660.

**SPECIAL ISRAEL PROGRAM FOR YOUNG ADULTS**

Livnot U'Lehibanot, the hiking, study and community service program of Tzfat and Jerusalem, is accepting registrations. Through a special arrangement with the Jewish Federation of Delaware, the Livnot experience is available to qualified young adults, ages 21-30, from Delaware for as low as \$600 including air fare from New York. Short term and long term programs are offered throughout the year. No knowledge of Hebrew is required. JFD offers a limited num-

ber of scholarships to qualified applicants. Please call Judy Wortman at 427-2100 for an application. For complete information about program dates for 1999 call Livnot at 1-888-LIVNOT-0 or visit their website at <http://www.livnot.org.il>

**ONGOING**

**Be a Part of the JCC Maccabi Youth Team.** The JCC will be sending a team to the JCC Youth Maccabi Games in Cherry Hill, N.J. from August 15-20. Youth ages 13-16 will participate in both team and individual sports. They will compete against teams from cities throughout the United States and Canada. For more information, please call Scott Bowers at 478-5660.

**VOLLEYBALL ANYONE?** Young Jewish Singles of Delaware sponsors a weekly volleyball game and dinner outing for adults in their 20s and 30s. Non competitive play every Wednesday at 6p.m., dinner at 8p.m. Call Phil at 652-6688 for more information.

## Newark Nite Is June 5th

Come one, come all to a super block party. Join in the fun from 5-8 p.m. along Newark's Main Street. Enjoy music and entertainment, jugglers, antique autos and food galore!

Stop by the Newark Jewish Community Network booth and say hello. Hope to see you there!

## Support Group Forming For Widows

Jewish Family Service and Schoenberg Memorial Chapel will sponsor a free Widows Support Group during the month of June. Meetings will be held on Tuesdays, June 1, 15, and 29 at 2 p.m. This community program will be held at Schoenberg Memorial Chapel, 519 Philadelphia Pike, Wilmington.

For additional information, please call Stacey Friedland, JFS, at 478-9411.

## Alumni Visit Albert Einstein Academy



Four alumni of the Albert Einstein Academy, who currently attend Springer Junior High School in Brandywine School District, came to visit. They offered to do volunteer work at the school and eagerly accepted the task of updating the Academy's memory book. Pictured from left to right are Briana Mamberg, Ben Warheit, Russell Katz, and Lara Goldstein.

Albert Einstein Academy is the only Jewish Day School in the state of Delaware and in the Brandywine Valley. The Academy educates children from Pre-Kindergarten through sixth grade. It is accredited by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools.

For further information about the Academy, contact Rabbi Ellen Bernhardt, Head of School, at (302) 478-5026.

To advertise in the Jewish Voice call Irv at 427-2100, ext. 24

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## Jewish Chicken Soup For The Soul

### Final Call For Inspiring Stories

Month after month, as the over twenty best-selling Chicken Soup for the Soul books roll off the press, thirsty Jewish readers have been asking: Why isn't there a book of Jewish stories in this series? Now there will be, and the deadline for story submission is coming soon.

Rabbi Dov Peretz Elkins, co-editor of the newest volume in the Chicken Soup For the Soul® series, with series founders

Jack Canfield and Mark Victor Hansen, invites final contributions of stories to JEWISH CHICKEN SOUP FOR THE SOUL by June 25. Send stories about insights from your Bubbe or Zeyde, the courage of your family in emigrating, moments of recognition between generations, "out of the mouths of babes," stories of births, b'nai mitzvah, weddings, wisdom and wit from the kinderlach.... Stories that make you sigh, cry

or laugh. Each story should be under 1000 words (editors will put it into literary form - don't worry about language). Each author whose story is accepted in the book will receive \$300.

For more information about the type of stories wanted, e-mail Rabbi Elkins at [elkins@tiger.jvnc.net](mailto:elkins@tiger.jvnc.net), write or call him at 212 Stuart Road East, Princeton, NJ 08540-1946. Tel 609/497-7375.

## SHABBAT PLUS

Enjoy an exhilarating weekend of learning and fun at Camp Ramah in the Poconos.

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This four day Adult Retreat program, led by Rabbi Ron & Leora Isaacs - experts in the field of Adult Education - includes group activities and discussions, use of camp facilities (nature trails, pool, tennis courts, arts & crafts), all in a relaxing mountain environment.

Please call Camp Ramah at the office for an application!!

**215-885-8556**

Plan on attending this summer! Thursday, July 15-Sunday, July 18



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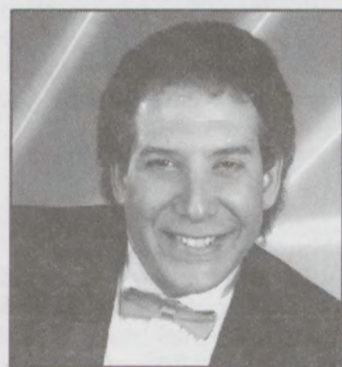
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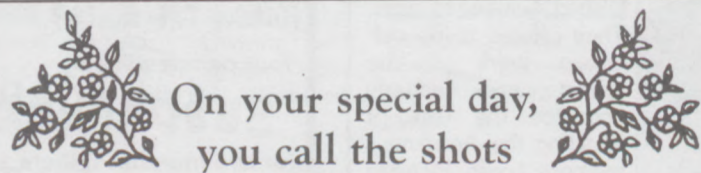
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